

# Adjusting for New Normals: Adapting Buildings to Extreme Heat and Power Outages

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Arcata, CA

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Environment, and Energy  
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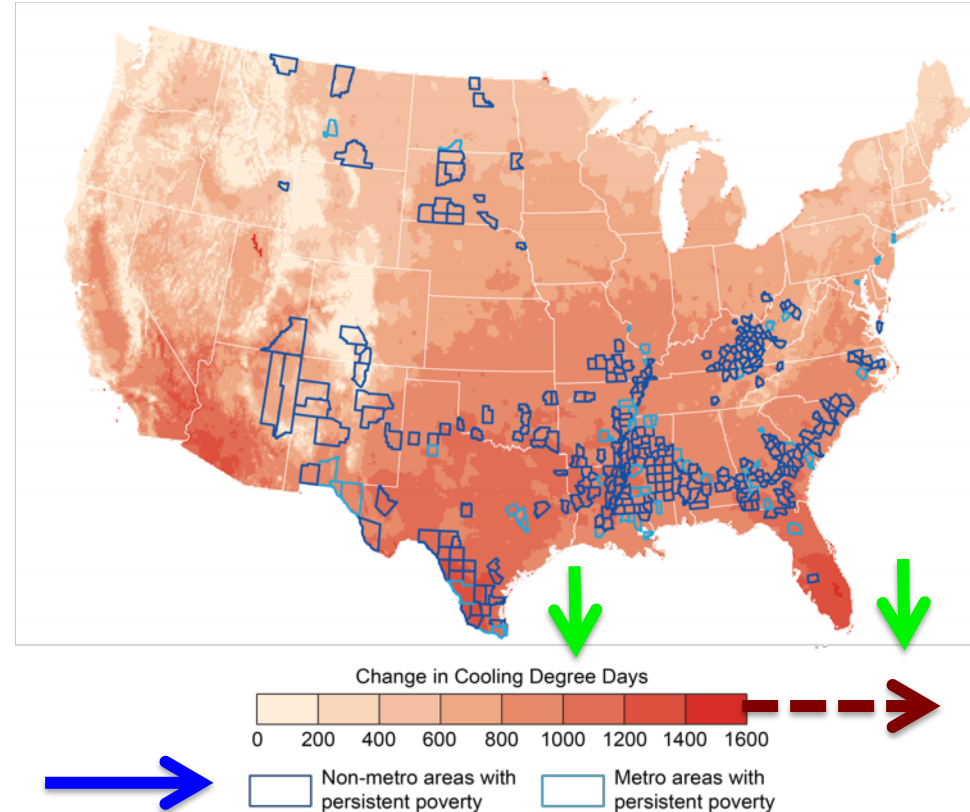
**'Unprecedented' early heat wave sets new records. Fire danger is high. [July 6, 2018.](#)**

**Over 12,000 still without power in L.A. after 3 days of record heat and record power demand. [July 9, 2018.](#)**

# Climate Change Impacts: Cooling Demand

- Increased cooling demand (Cooling Degree Days/year)<sup>1</sup>
  - Mid-century: + > 1,000 CDD in many regions
  - Late century: + > 2,000 CDD in many areas<sup>2</sup>
  - Energy poverty and/or AC lacking in many areas (blue boxes)
- Major impacts on energy costs, grid demand, grid outages, and health

*CDD Increase by Mid-Century, RCP 8.5<sup>1</sup>*



1. USGCRP, 2018. Fourth National Climate Assessment, Vol. 2. Fig. 14 and 19. <https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/chapter/front-matter-about/>.
2. Petri & Caldeira, 2015. <https://www.nature.com/articles/srep12427>.

# Climate Change Impacts: Mortality

- Increased **U.S. mortality** from extreme heat & cold <sup>1</sup>

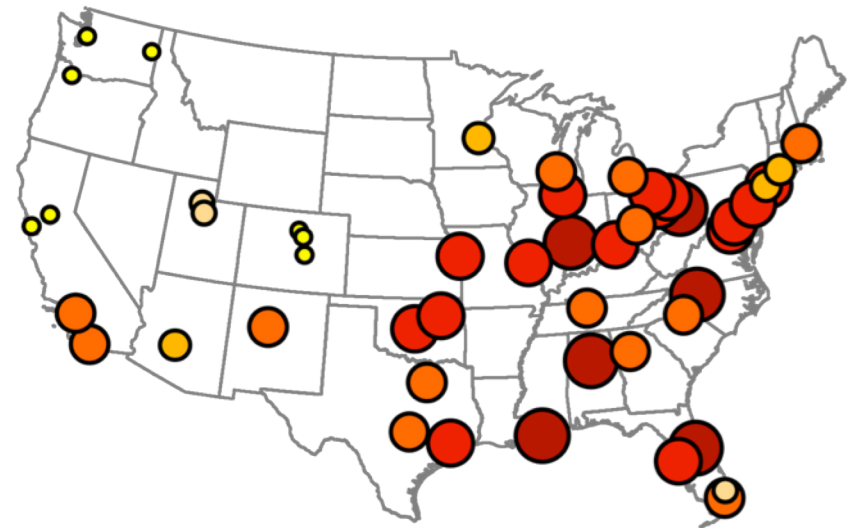
- Late century: up to **9,300 deaths/year** across **49 cities** (1/3 of US population)
- Very high risk in many cities:  $\geq 10$  per 100,000 risk ( **$10^{-4}$  risk**)
- **\$140 billion/year** (in 2015 dollars)
- RCP 8.5, no adaptation

- **California** heat-related mortality <sup>2</sup>

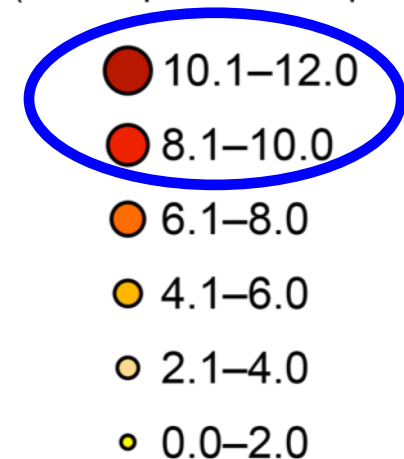
- **650 deaths in 2006** heat wave
- **Late century, seniors: 4,700 – 8,800 deaths per year** (9 urban metro areas; medium growth; 5 models; no adaptation)

1. USGCRP, Nov. 2018. Fourth National Climate Assessment, Vol. 2. Figs. 14.4 and 19.22  
<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/chapter/front-matter-about/>.
2. Sheridan et al., 2011. A spatial synoptic classification approach to projected heat vulnerability in California under future climate change scenarios. [CARB Seminar, Final Report, and journal articles](#).

Higher Scenario  
(RCP8.5)

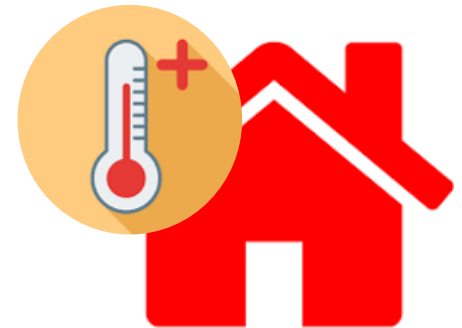


Change in Mortality Rate  
(deaths per 100,000 people)



# Study Objectives

- **Design new single family ZNE home in Bakersfield, CA**
  - Healthy, resilient, and affordable
  - 2019 CA building energy standards: Title 24
- **Examine impacts of 2006 Heat Wave, Climate Change, and Power Outages on:**
  - Overheating of home
  - Time Dependent Value (TDV) Energy
- **Optimize home performance for energy cost (TDV), and ultimately Carbon emissions, in Bakersfield and then in future climate.**



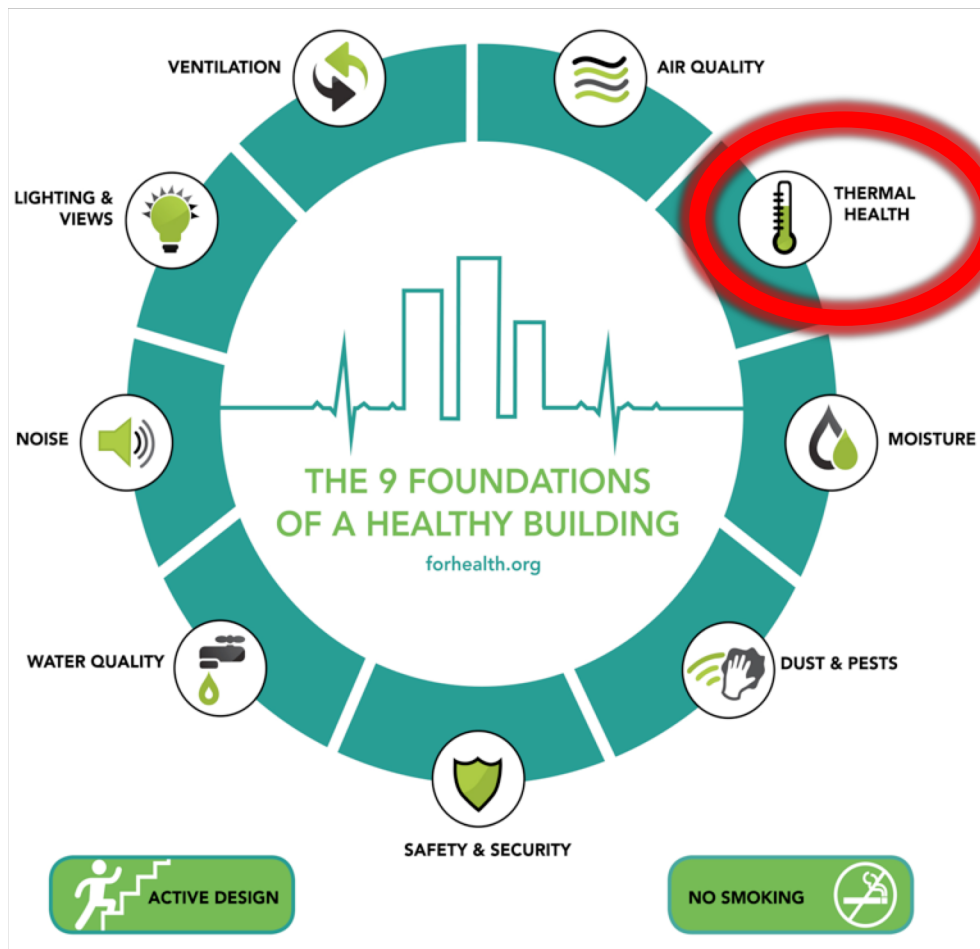


# Methods

- **Overheating Metrics**
  - Discomfort Index (DI)
  - Wet Bulb Global Temperature (WBGT)



[Zero Carbon Hub, 2013.](#)  
[Overheating in Homes: Where to Start.](#)



# Methods (2)

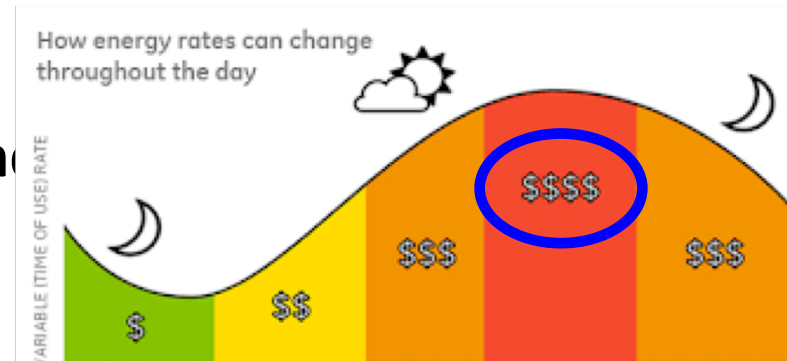
- **Overheating Metrics**

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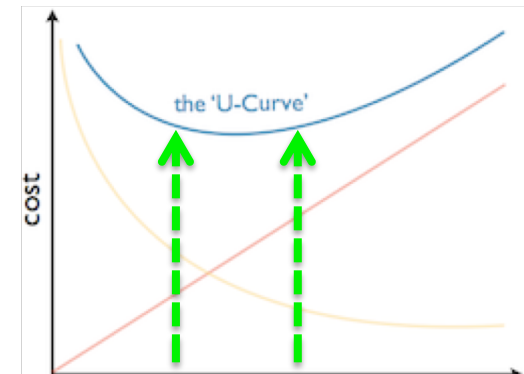
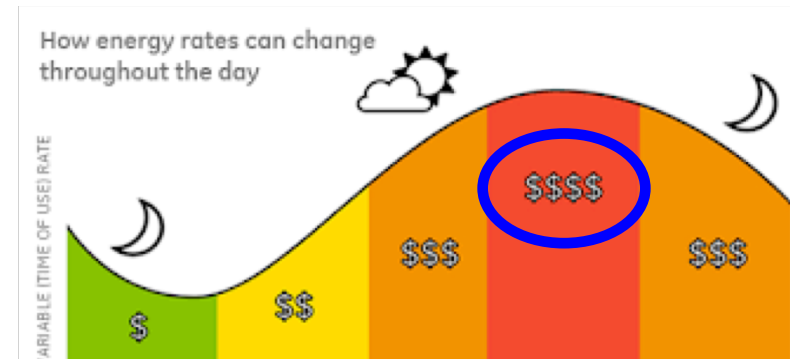
- **Time Dependent Value Energy (TDV) and Total Energy Use**

- TDV driven by peak cooling demand
- Site Energy per year
- CBECC-Residential software for CA building standards



# Methods (3)

- **Overheating Metrics**
  - Discomfort Index (DI)
  - Wet Bulb Global Temperature (WBGT)
- **Time Dependent Value Energy (TDV) and Total Energy Use**
  - CBECC-Residential model for CA building standards
- **Building Optimization**
  - Optimize for TDV, cooling energy, and carbon emissions
  - BeOpt model (NREL, free tool)



# Methods: Modeled Scenarios

- CA Climate Zone 13, Fresno (CZ13)
  - *Typical historical weather, used in building standards*
- **Bakersfield 2006 Heat Wave (BFL)**
  - *Extreme historical case*
- **Future Climate: Analogue cities (Yuma and Phoenix)**
  - *Reasonable worst case*
- **Power Outages** for current and future climates
  - *Near-Worst cases (no heat wave)*





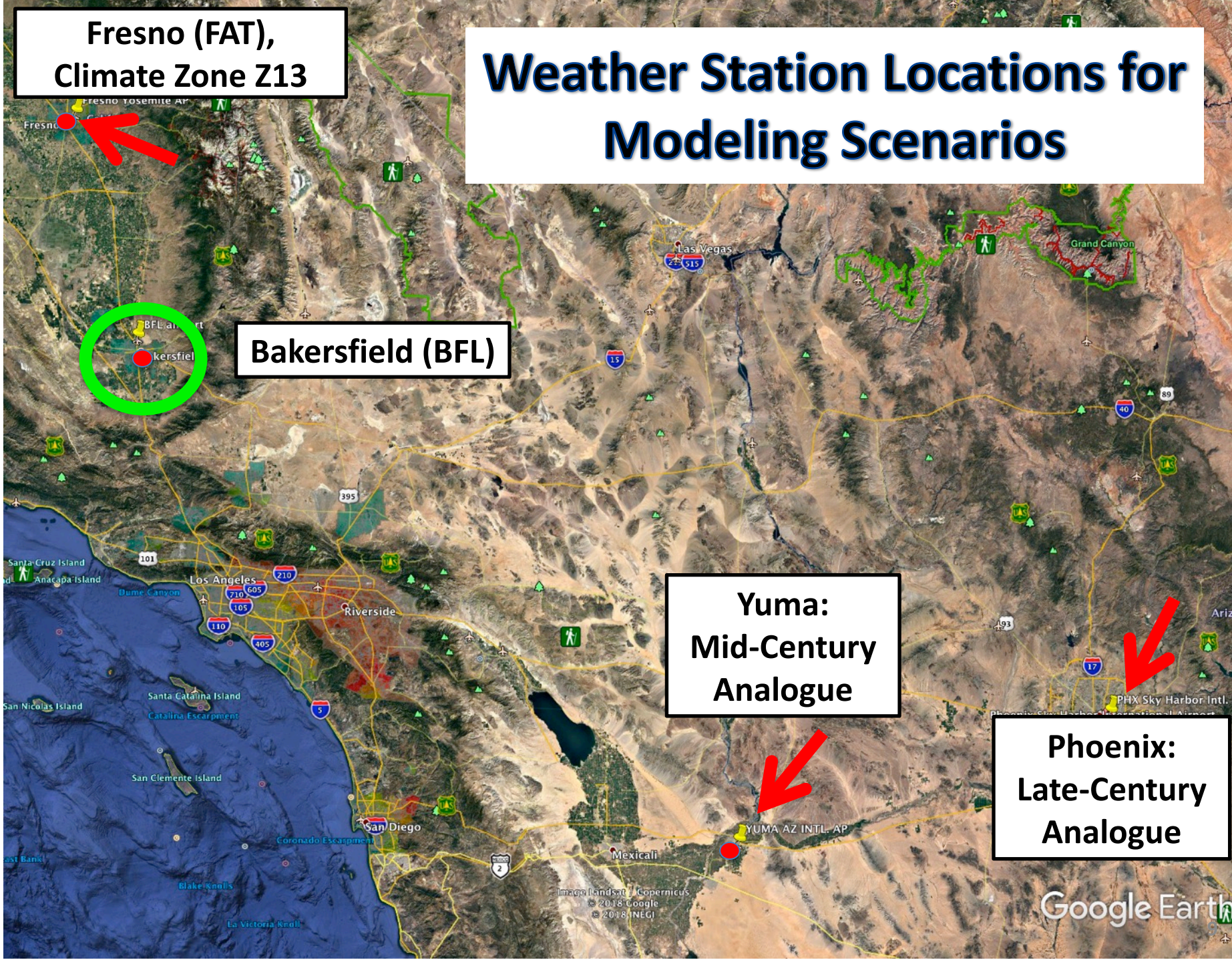
**Fresno (FAT),  
Climate Zone Z13**

# Weather Station Locations for Modeling Scenarios

**Bakersfield (BFL)**

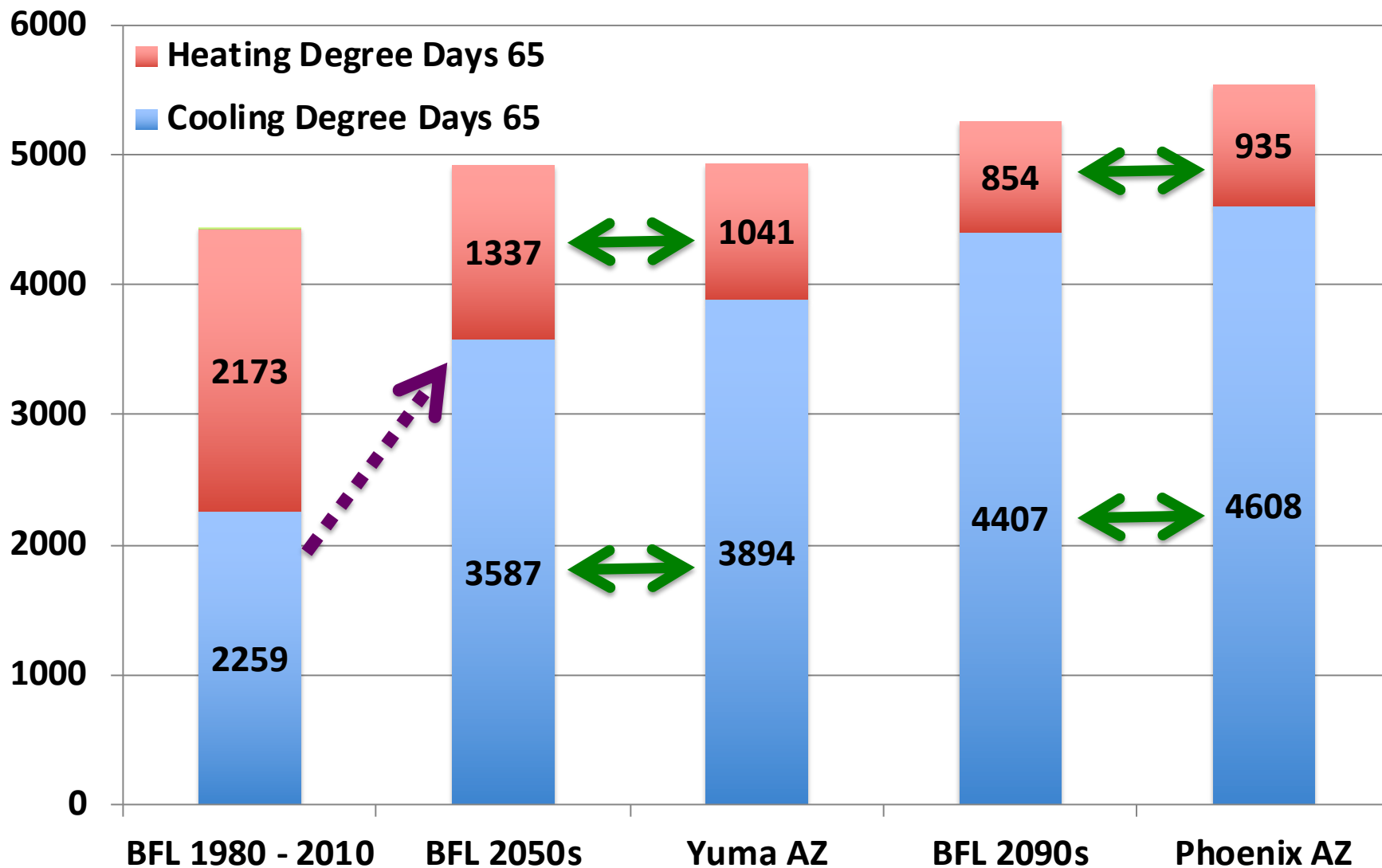
**Yuma:  
Mid-Century  
Analogue**

**Phoenix:  
Late-Century  
Analogue**





# CDD and HDD: BFL Historical and Cal Adapt vs. Climate Analogue Cities

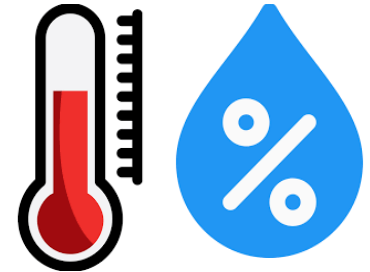


1. Cal-Adapt, 2018. Tools. Cooling and Heating Degree Days. East Bakersfield, RCP 8.5, 10 year average. <https://cal-adapt.org/tools/>.
2. NCDC, 1981-2010 Climate Normals. <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datatools/normals>.

# Overheating: Metrics for Public Health

- **Discomfort Index (DI)**

$$DI = (0.5 * T \text{ dry bulb}) + (0.5 * T \text{ wet bulb})^1$$



- **Targets:**

$\geq 22$  °C (71.6 °F) Mild: under 50% feel discomfort <sup>2</sup>

$\geq 24$  °C (75.2 °F) Moderate: 50% or more feel discomfort <sup>2</sup>

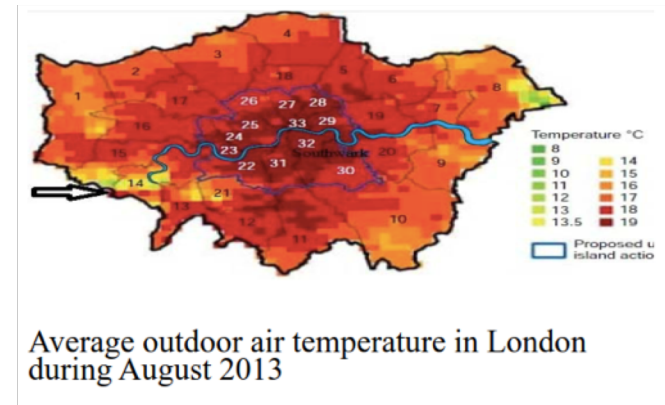
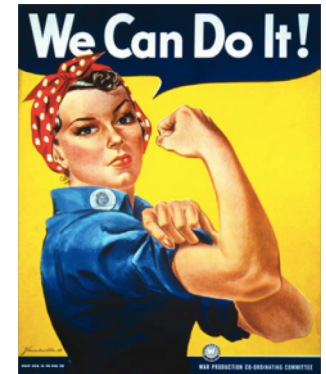
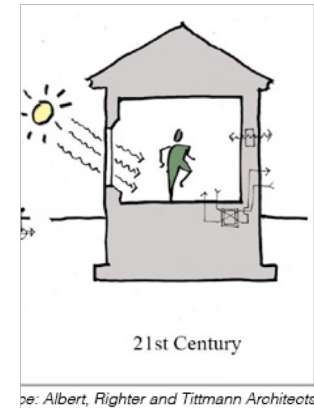
$\geq 28$  °C (82.4 °F) Severe: Most suffer discomfort <sup>2</sup>

1. Baniassadi and Sailor (2018).

2. Epstein and Moran (2006).

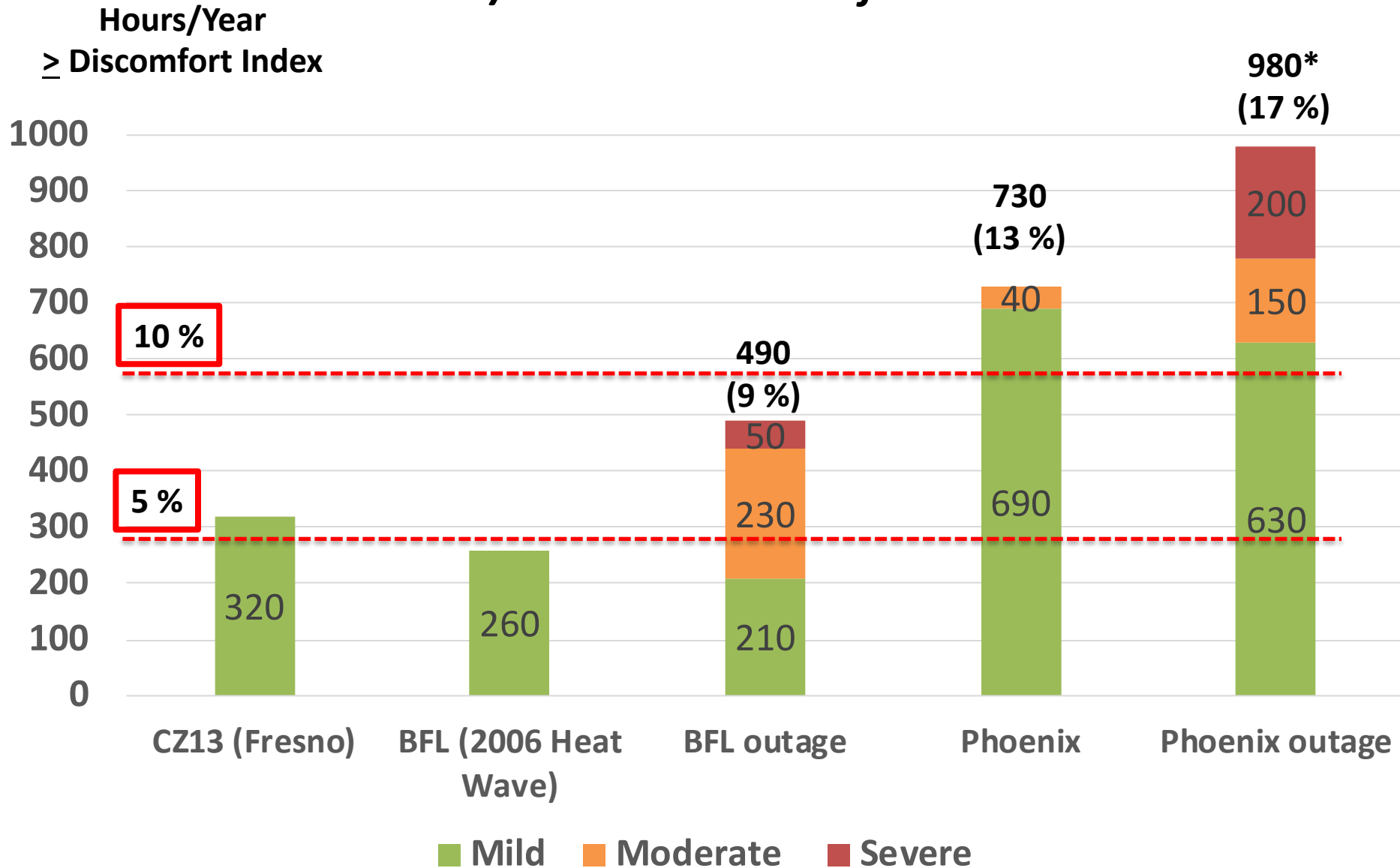
# Overheating Standards and Guidelines: *International*

- **Passive House Program:**  
 **$\leq 10\%$  (h/y)  $> 25\text{ C}$** , and moisture limit <sup>1</sup>
- **CIBSE TM 59 Overheating Design Guide (UK):**  
**1-3 % (h/y)** overheating limits by room type;  
**future climate scenarios** recommended. <sup>2,3</sup>
- **CIBSE TM 49 Urban Heat Island Design Guide (UK and London Plan):**  
**Overheating risk assessment for urban heat zones.** <sup>4</sup>



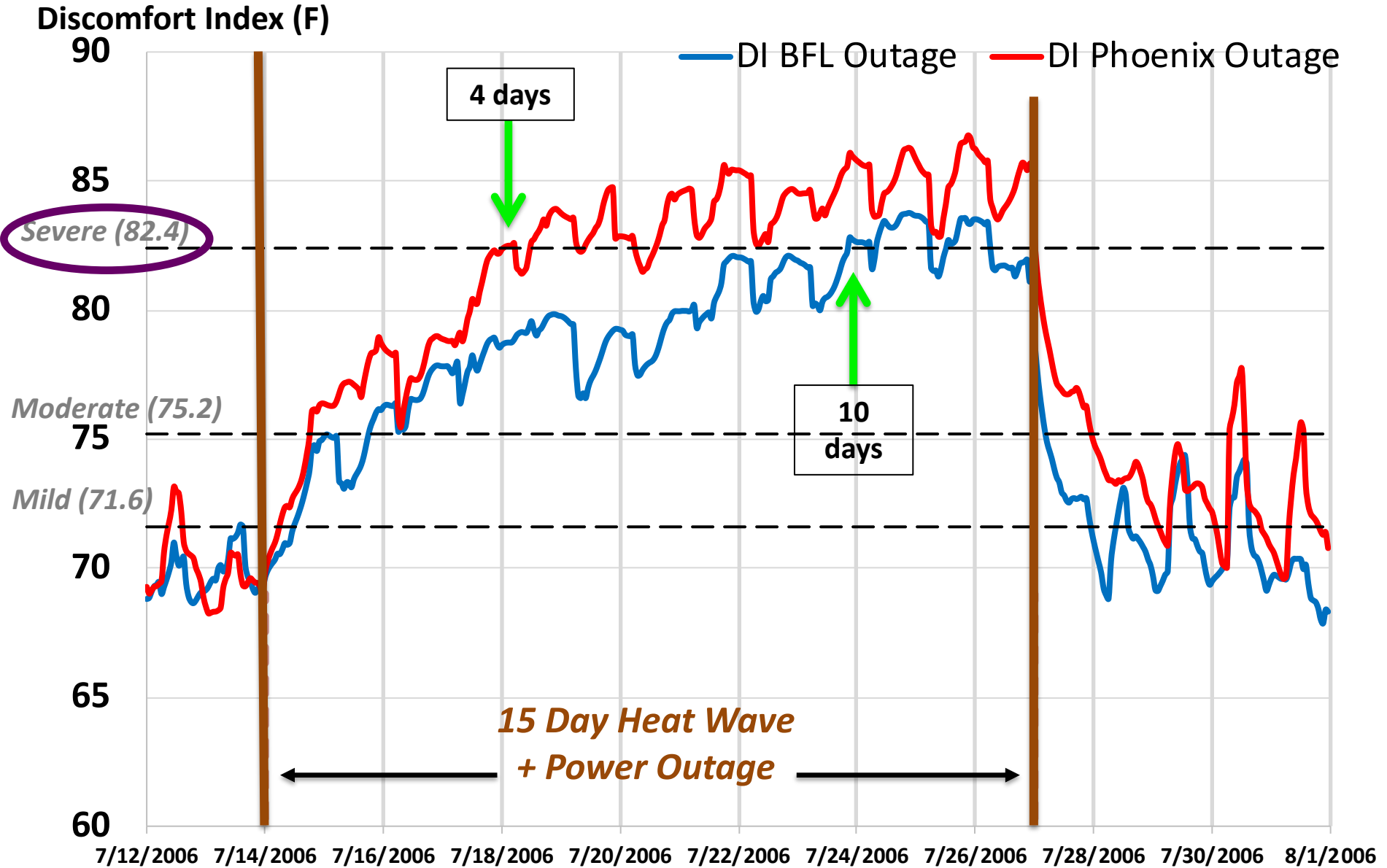
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3. Diamond, S., May 22, 2017. TM 59 webinar. Inking Associates.
4. CIBSE, 2014. [TM49 Design Summer Years for London.](#) See also: ARCC Network, 2017. [Designing for Future Climate.](#)

# Preliminary Results: Overheating Hours/Year Over Discomfort Indices



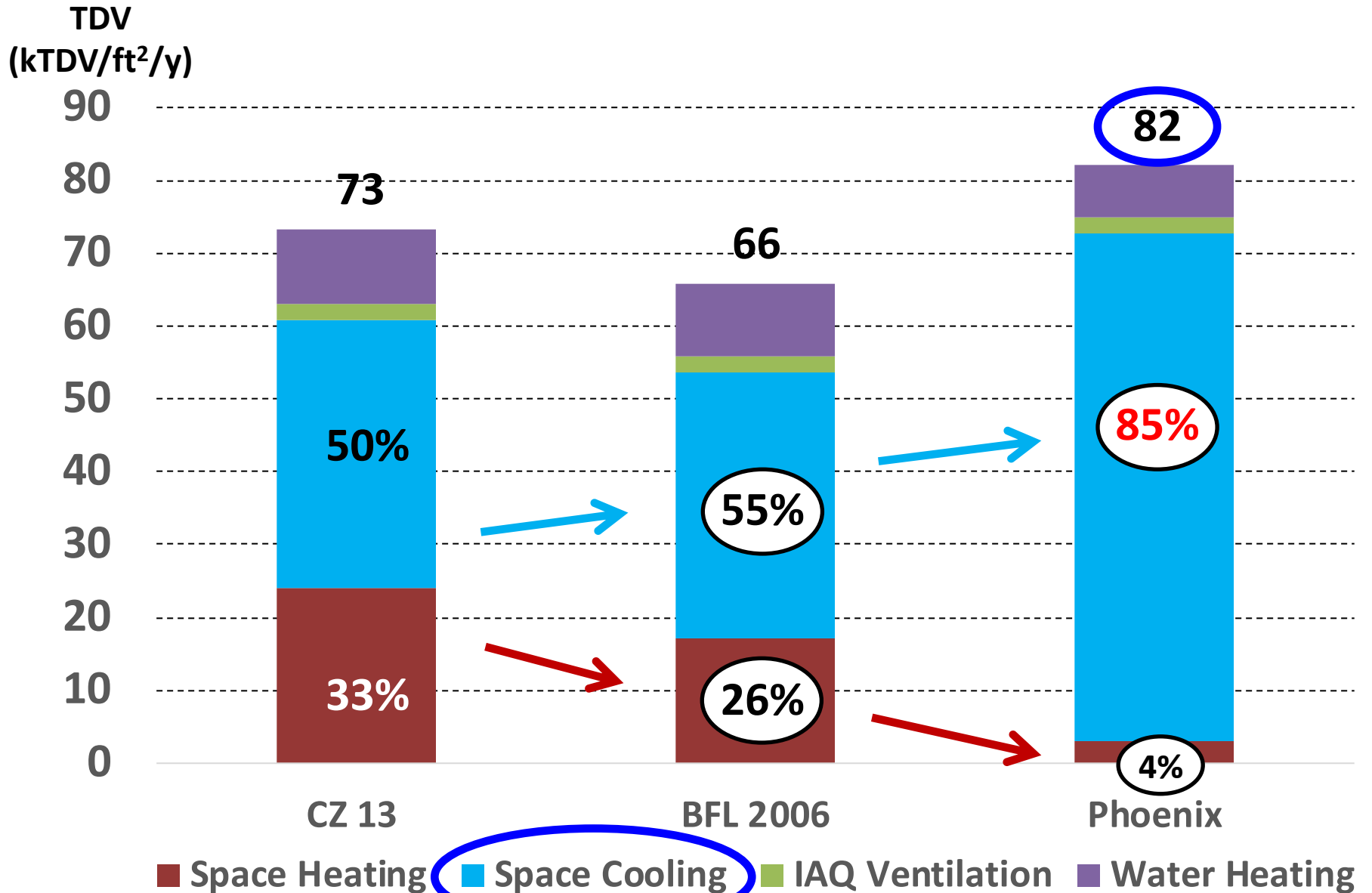
\* Outage period is simulated only for 15 days (July 14 – July 28), as occurred in BFL 2006.

# BFL and Phoenix DI: Heat Wave + Outage





# Preliminary Results: TDV and % of Total TDV



# BeOpt Model: Optimizing Multiple Measures

**SCREEN related categories, stepwise:  
Each with several options**



**OPTIMIZE all categories:  
Use top 2-3 options for TDV and Cooling Energy**



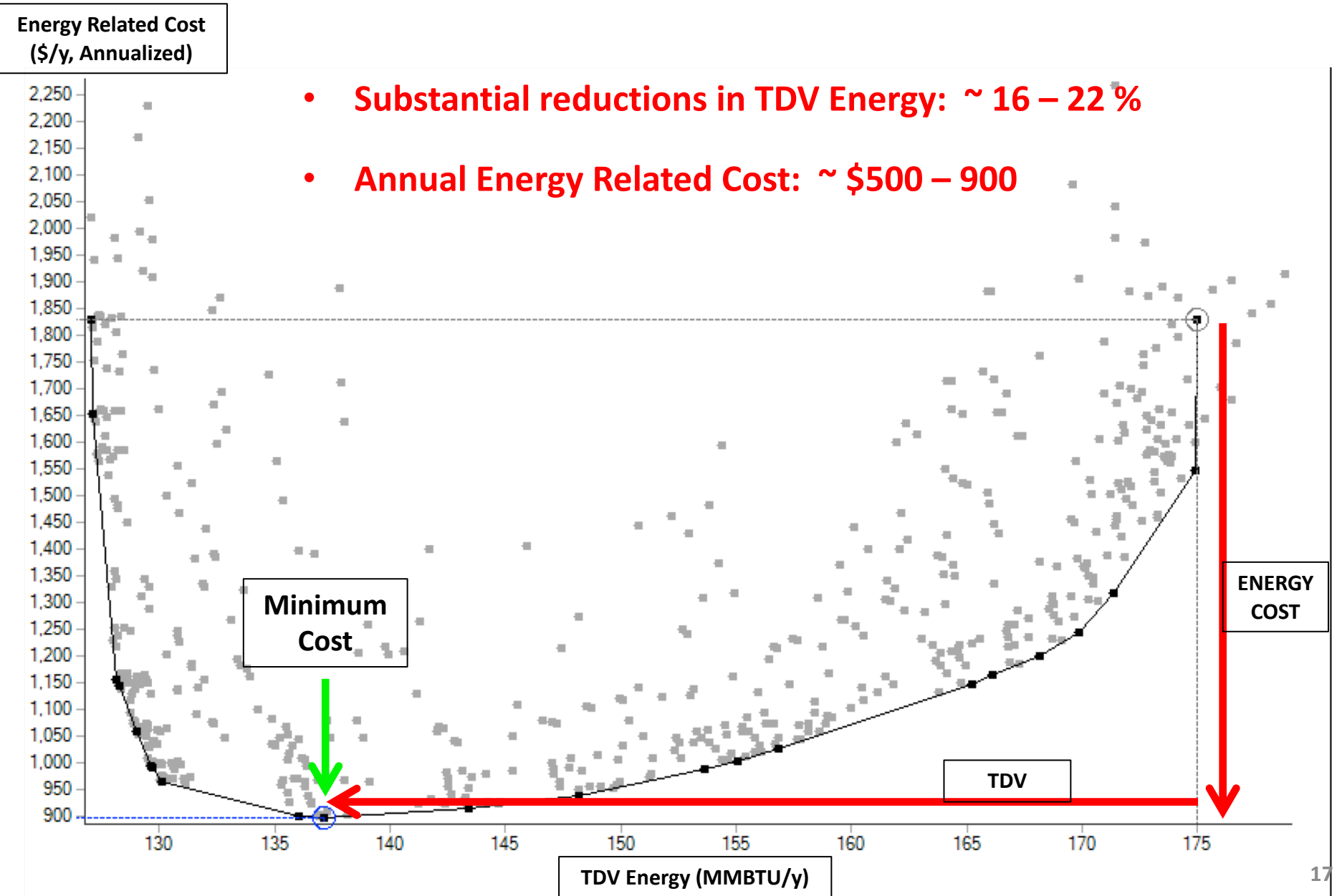
**Add PV to meet Site Energy need:  
Test a range of sizes**

## Optimization Categories

1. Building Site
2. Walls
3. Ceilings/Roofs
4. Foundation/Floor
5. Thermal Mass
6. Windows/Doors/Shading
7. Air Flow
8. Space Conditioning
9. Water Heating
10. Lighting
11. Appliances & Fixtures & Schedules
12. MISC: plug loads & other appliances
13. PV

# BeOpt Results (Preliminary): Energy Costs vs. TDV

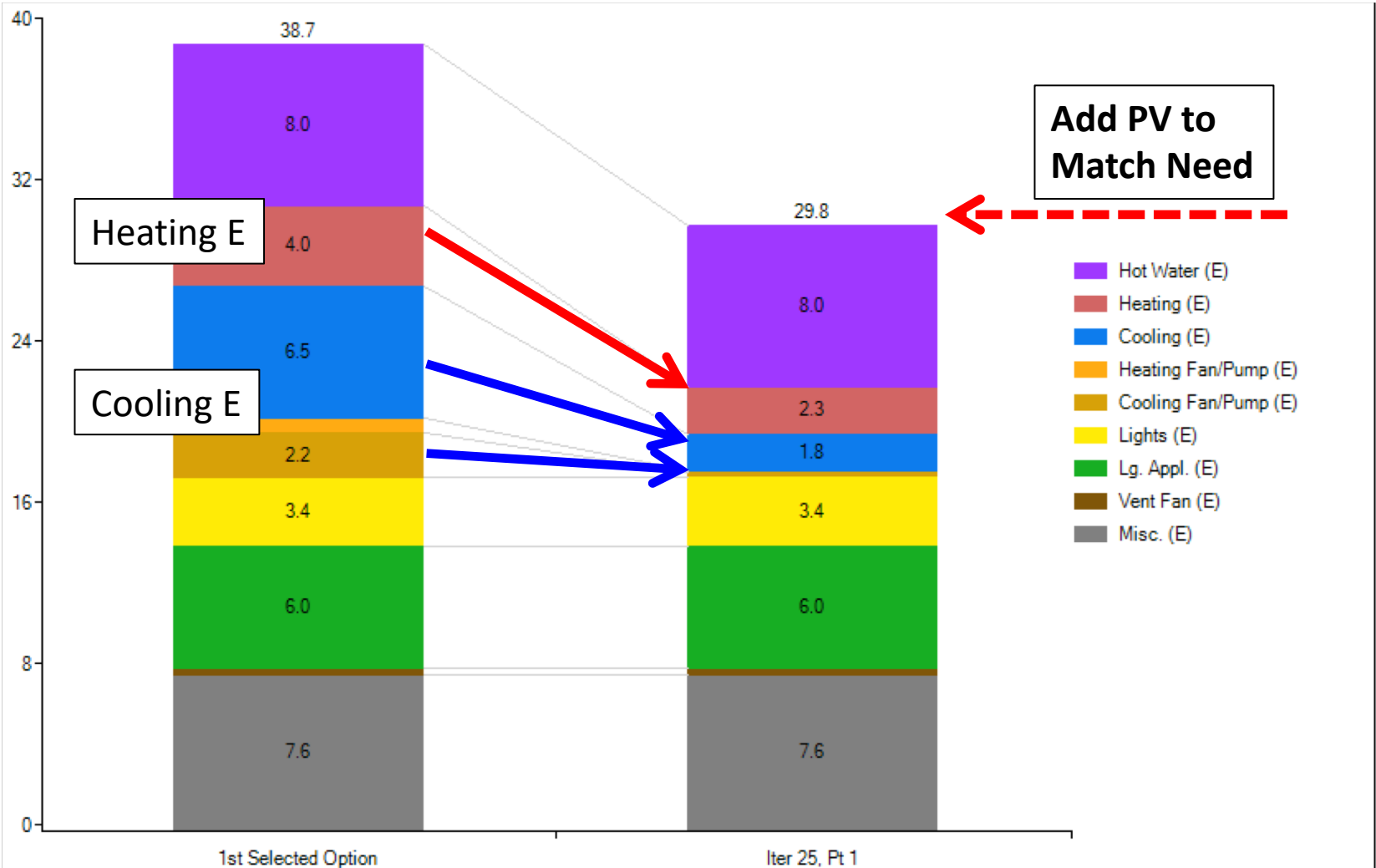
*Title 24 Single Family box prototype, 2100 ft<sup>2</sup>, 3 BR, no PV*



# BeOpt Full Optimization: Site Energy Example

- Total Site E Reduction: ~ 9 MMBTU/y (23%)
- Add PV to meet Site Energy needs

Site Energy  
(MMBTU/y)



# Overheating Standards and Guidelines:

## North America: *Input Needed* \*



- ✓ Build It Green (2016): GreenPoint Rated 7.0 (CA Homes) <sup>1</sup>
- ✓ LEED/RELI (2018 update) Pilot Credit: Resilient Design 2.0 <sup>2</sup>
- ★ Collaborative for High Performance Schools Criteria (U.S.) <sup>3</sup>
- ★ California Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, and BC climate adaptation plan <sup>5</sup>
- ★ Cal-Adapt climate tools update (CA) <sup>6</sup>
- ★ California PUC to address strategies and guidance for climate adaptation for electric and natural gas utilities. <sup>4</sup>

**2018 Update:**  
*Dec. 6 webinar;*  
*Dec. 10 Comments*

!

**2019: Weather files update  
& future weather files !!**

**Dec. 5 webinar;**  
**User input sought !**

**Schedule  
TBD !**

🌀 **Big Boom in research papers on overheating.**

1. Build It Green, 2017. [Version 7.0 Update, Executive Summary.](#)
2. Wilson, A., 2018. [The LEED credits are back up.](#)
3. [CHPS 2018 draft update and webinar.](#)
4. J. Huang, White Box Technologies. Personal communication, Nov. 21 ,2018.
5. Cal-Adapt. [https://cal-adapt.org/blog/2018/webinar-december/.](https://cal-adapt.org/blog/2018/webinar-december/)
6. Filings at the CPUC, May 2018. [www.cpuc.ca.gov/.../CPUC\\_Website/.../Filings%20newsletter%202018-05.pdf](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/.../CPUC_Website/.../Filings%20newsletter%202018-05.pdf)



# CONCLUSIONS

- **Modeling and measurement tools are available** to assess and mitigate overheating and energy use impacts of climate change, and to keep buildings healthy and resilient (survivable).
- There are **some signs of progress** in addressing this problem in N. America – perhaps even an inflection point.
- But we **must integrate climate adaptation to extreme heat** into all programs & policies -- **NOW**.



bungalow with shutter design S2 & S3



detached house with shutter design S1



flats with external shading design S4



terraced house with shutter design S3

# Thank you for your attention!!

**Thought For the Day:**

***BE PREPARED  
for Extreme  
Conditions***

**Song for the Day:**  
***Shapes of Things,  
Yardbirds***

<http://www.songfacts.com/detail.php?lyrics=113>  
[91](#)

Contact Information  
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Emily Higbee, [ech211@humboldt.edu](mailto:ech211@humboldt.edu)



*Grand Canyon National Park*

# **BONUS SLIDES**

## ***PHILLIPS & HIGBEE: RECOMMENDATION***

Provide and promote **future proof, healthy, and resilient buildings** that adapt to and mitigate climate change, especially for extreme heat.

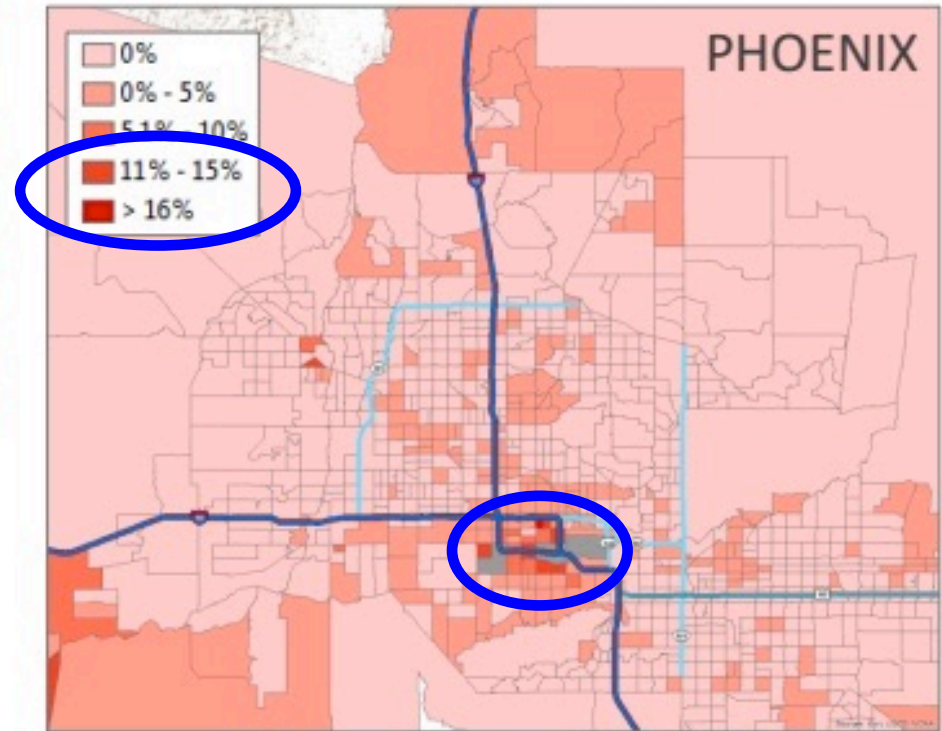
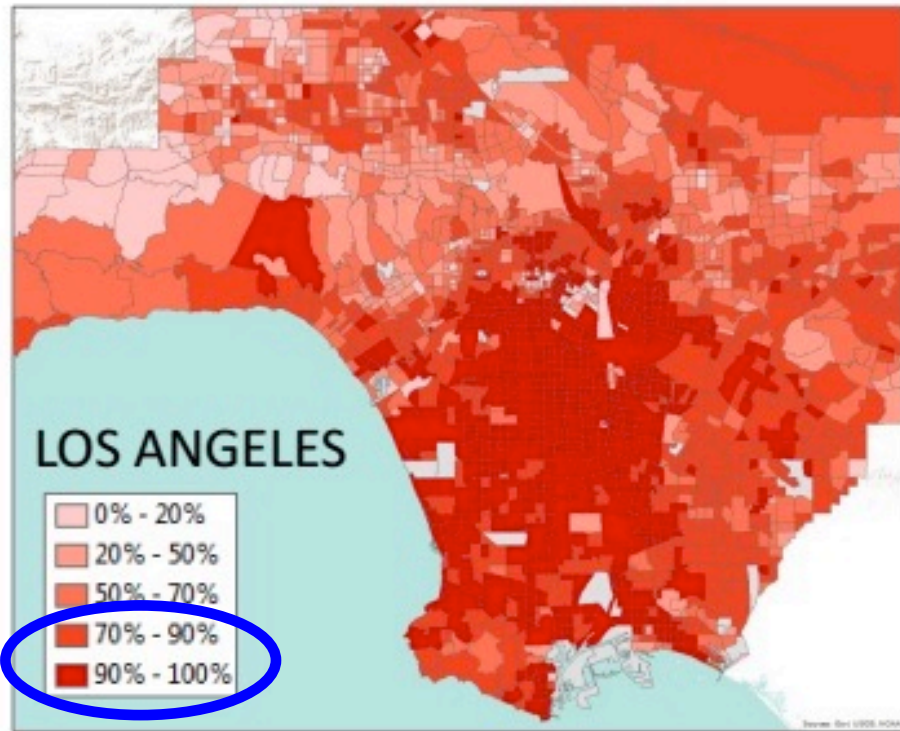
- ✓ Assess climate vulnerability to extreme heat using future weather files, and design for **full life cycle optimization**.
- ✓ Include passive cooling measures in **retrofit programs**, targeting heat vulnerable buildings and populations.
- ✓ **Update building standards** and design **guidelines** now.
- ✓ **Educate and train** building, planning, & health professionals.
- ✓ **Accelerate market demand** through improved financing, incentives, demonstrations, and marketing for future proof buildings.

# Why is Indoor Heat Exposure So Important?

- **Mortality & Morbidity**
  - Europe 2003 Heat Wave
  - California 2006 Heat Wave
  - **Even moderate heat increases health risks**
  - **Many deaths occur indoors**
  - **Most long term exposure is indoors, especially for vulnerable persons**
  - **New CA homes were often too hot**
- **Climate Change is increasing:**
  - Extreme heat (frequency, intensity, duration)
  - **Especially nighttime heat (sleep deprivation)**
  - **Increasing humidity in CA and NE**
  - Wildfires, pollen, air pollution
  - Mold from flooding
  - Urban Heat Island, land development
  - **Power outages**



# Homes *Without* Central AC: L.A. vs. Phoenix \*



- LA homes: **very high percentage lack Central AC**, especially near the coast, in the LA Basin, and in low income areas
- Phoenix homes: very low percentage lack Central AC, but **high in low income and older neighborhoods**

\* Chester et al., Sept. 9, 2015 presentation. [Pioritizing Cooling Infrastructure Investments for Vulnerable Southwest Populations](#). ASU/UCLA study. AC status based on property tax records regarding central air systems, etc. See also: Reyna & Chester, 2017 re: projected electricity demand in L.A. County. <https://www.nature.com/articles/ncomms14916>.

# Preliminary Results: Summary

- **Overheating in a new Bakersfield ZNE home:**
  - **Historical and heat wave conditions: mild DI at a modest level (~5 % of hours/y).**
  - **Future climate and power outage conditions: more extensive and intense DI (9 – 17 % hours/y), especially in the late century climate (Phoenix).**
  - **Future climate conditions: large increase in total TDV, and cooling TDV accounts for 82% of that.**
  - **Outage + Heat Wave conditions: severe DI occurred by 5<sup>th</sup> day in the current climate, and by the 1<sup>st</sup> day in the future climate.**
- **Optimization modeling:**
  - **Results suggested the energy efficiency measures can achieve major reductions in current and future TDV and carbon emissions.**
  - **Reductions in overheating frequency, duration, and intensity are expected also.**

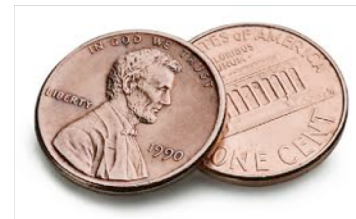
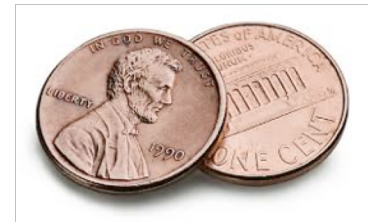
# Indoor Overheating Standards and Guidelines: *International ADD IMAGES*

- **Passive House Program: Overheating specifications.** <sup>1</sup>
  - **≤ 10% of hours > 25 C** (≤ 5 % used by some); static model
  - Absolute humidity criteria of <12 g/kg
- **CIBSE TM 59 Overheating design guide (UK).** <sup>2</sup>
  - **25 – 28 C Operative Temperature** (T & RH)
  - Time and temperature limits for different occupancies and rooms
  - **Recommended: assess for 2050s and 2080s climates under high & medium emissions scenarios**
- **CIBSE TM 49 Urban Heat Island design guide.** <sup>4</sup>
  - Overheating assessed using **Design Summer Year weather data**
  - **Urban heat zones are mapped for London and other cities**

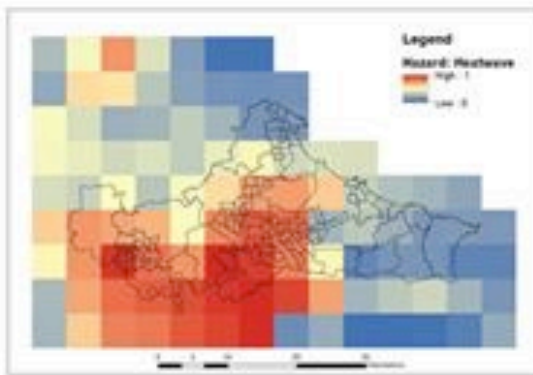
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# Indoor Overheating Standards and Guidelines: *North America: Input Needed \**

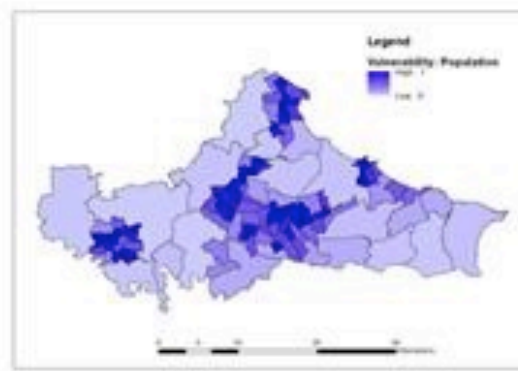
- Build It Green (2016): GreenPoint Rated 7.0 (CA Residential) <sup>1</sup>
- \* Collaborative for High Performance Schools Criteria (U.S.) <sup>2</sup>
  - 2018 Update: **December 6 webinar**
  - **Public comments due Dec. 10**
- LEED/RELi Pilot Credit 2018: Resilient Design 2.0 (N. America), <sup>3</sup>
  - Updated November 2018
- \* California PUC begins to address strategies and guidance for **climate adaptation for electric and natural gas utilities.** <sup>4</sup>
- \* **California** Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards <sup>5</sup>
  - Weather file update to 2006 - 2017; due **early 2019 !**
  - **Future weather files: considered for next Title 24 update !!**
  - **Cal-Adapt climate tools update: December 5 webinar, Practitioner Input** <sup>6</sup>



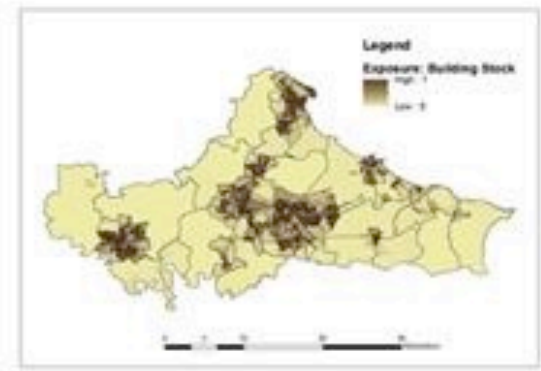
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2. Wilson, A., 2018. [https://www.resilientdesign.org/the-leed-pilot-credits-on-resilient-design-are-back-up/.](https://www.resilientdesign.org/the-leed-pilot-credits-on-resilient-design-are-back-up/)
3. CHPS draft criteria and webinaer: <https://chps.net/news-announcements>, [https://chps.net/event/chps-national-core-criteria-%E2%80%93-introduction-2018-update.](https://chps.net/event/chps-national-core-criteria-%E2%80%93-introduction-2018-update)
4. Filings at the CPUC, May 2018. [www.cpuc.ca.gov/.../CPUC\\_Website/.../Filings%20newsletter%202018-05.pdf](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/.../CPUC_Website/.../Filings%20newsletter%202018-05.pdf)
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6. Cal-Adapt. [https://cal-adapt.org/blog/2018/webinar-december/.](https://cal-adapt.org/blog/2018/webinar-december/)



Hazard: UKCP09 climate projections of average summer Tmax and heatwave frequency

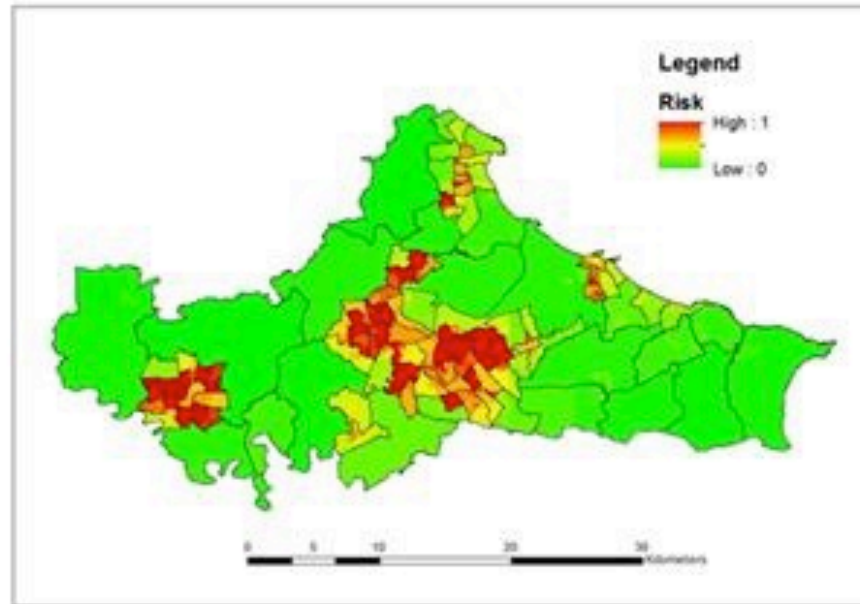


Vulnerability: Densities of young, old, long term illness and population requiring care



Exposure: Densities of low insulated buildings and high rise flats

# Mapping Heat, Health, and Vulnerable Buildings



Risk: Relative risk based on three constituents, hazard, vulnerability and exposure

Newcastle University, 2013. Tees Valley Heat Risk Mapping. Centre for Earth Systems Engineering Research (CESER).

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/ceser/researchprogramme/impactengagement/teesvalleyheatriskmapping/>.

SEE ALSO: Heat mortality risk and housing mapping of London, [ARCC Network 2017](#).



# Weatherization and Asthma Home Intervention Impacts: Modeled Annual Cost Changes per Asthmatic in Low Income MFam Households

